

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 16, 2009

Oliver Administration Building

Present

Subcommittee: William O'Dell (Chair), Paul Brule and Karen Lynch

School Committee, Administration and Staff: Denise Arsenault (6:05), John Bento, Diana Campbell, Marjorie McBride, John Saviano, Edward Mara, Melinda Thies (6:08), Mary Cerullo (6:07), Jane Correia and George Simmons

Guests: John Olsen of the Bristol Mustangs, Dr. Christopher Kennedy (to observe)

Bill O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the minutes to the

February 10, 2009 meeting; Karen Lynch seconded; the motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Warrant Review

No questions or issues.

Facilities Updates

Storage Shed for Bristol Mustangs

Karen Lynch reported the Mustangs have a sudden and desperate need for some storage space for equipment; their games are played on the Mt. Hope fields. She, George Simmons, Walter Burke and Roger Williams University staff have been meeting to come up with a solution. The consensus, which is the recommendation of George Simmons, is to build an addition to an existing high school shed located at the north end of the student parking lot. The materials will be purchased by a \$2500 grant through RWU, the outside walls will be constructed by the Mt. Hope Home Building Program and the Mustangs will do all the inside work; the District will have full ownership of the space. John Olsen said the structure will be needed until 2011, when the Bristol recreation center will be ready for them to use.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the building of an addition to the Mt. Hope High School shed, the space to be used by the Bristol Mustangs for as long as needed (anticipated to 2011), at no cost to

and full ownership by the District. Karen Lynch seconded.

Diana Campbell questioned the possibility of a merger of football programs with adjacent towns, as well as maintenance and liability. The merger is not going to happen and the club has its own insurance.

The motion to approve passed unanimously.

John Olsen left the meeting at 6:20 PM.

Gas Lines to the High School

George reported National Grid is scheduled to begin work on April 1. No curb cuts are necessary.

Press Box / Athletic Field Master Plan

Roland Robert had begun work on designing the press box; it is not known how far into the project he got; no paperwork could be found in his office, but George will check with his secretary again to see if she was able to find anything in his data base. To be up to code, it has to be made handicapped accessible and 8 male and 8 female lavatories installed; the current press box does not pose a safety issue. Any money paid to Roland for this project should be recovered by the District. Another District architect should be hired.

Marj felt the funds are better spent on a permanent project like this that will be used for years to come rather than on additional staffing

that could be a financial burden to maintain in a few years time. Gate receipts are a possible funding source. Language labs at the high and middle schools were also discussed last fall. The Committee discussed marrying this project with the master athletic field plan. Paul Brule approves the concept but has concerns about finances and would not want the language labs sacrificed for the fields.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to move forward conceptually with the inclusion of the press box in the athletic field master plan. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

The project will be included in the five year plan. Jane mentioned it is possible we would not get housing aid on this project; George added that we must demonstrate that the project would save us money in the future.

Even with more work done on the track, we can host interscholastic league meets but not state or national championships. George Gifford's estimates include repairing the frost heaves and expanding the fence around the perimeter of the track to meet national standards.

Camera at Mt. Hope Parking Lot

George Simmons reported the Bristol Police are having many issues with vandalism in the student parking lot during the day and have

recommended surveillance cameras be installed. The vandalism is perpetrated mostly by youths who are not Mt. Hope students. George has investigated a Dynopel night time camera surveillance system—the camera has a range of 300 feet and will follow a moving object until another moving object appears then follow that object; if both objects continue moving, it pans back and forth. A monitor is installed inside the building and the tapes are retained for 30 days; there is only one pole in that lot and a data feed would have to be supplied to it; the system could be expanded to add three more cameras at a future time. We currently have some outside cameras that record the doorways of the building; their vandal proof covers work well. The Substance Abuse Task Force will contribute \$7500 toward the cost. John Saviano suggested exploring more funding sources, such as the police departments.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to purchase the Dynopel surveillance camera for the student parking lot, with \$7500 of the cost from the Substance Abuse Task Force and a maximum of \$8000 from District funds. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

FOB at Hugh Cole

Teachers at Hugh Cole are not using the south parking lot specifically installed for them because of the long walk to the accessible entrance to the building. Outside doors adjacent to the lot are kept locked for security reasons. This has created a rather unsafe situation with traffic in the visitors' parking lot, especially so when there are snow

piles in the wintertime. An FOB entrance system could allow access to the building via a door very close to the teachers' lot, but at a cost of \$11,867. Paul Brule suggested a double tumbler door lock be installed on that outside door—the custodian could unlock one lock during arrival time in the morning, and teachers would have a numbered key to unlock the second lock to gain entrance. Most of the time, both locks will be engaged. All agreed this is an inexpensive and suitable solution. George said the two doors on the southern most side of the building are the salvaged original entrance doors to Hugh Cole; he will consult a locksmith about the feasibility of a double tumbler lock.

Lift Station

Bids are out and the bid opening is in two weeks. George discovered a second pump of ours in Tiverton that was not paid for, and although antiquated, would work in an emergency.

Other Updates

Colt Andrews Punch List: George recently met with Christopher Daly, Luis Torrado and Armand Lusi and reviewed all punch lists; not many items left; we are waiting on one window in the ball cap area.

RFP for Colt Andrews Library: George said the plans are expected tomorrow; Luis Torrado offered to do the work gratis as a favor. The

original design by Galuska had a 7' tall a.c. unit that HDC would definitely object to; the new design has three small units that will not be visible from the street; Capeway Roofing will be involved in the project to protect warranties on the roof.

Andrews Gym: Karen Lynch reported a leak in the Andrews Gym roof; George was unaware and will look into it.

Andrews Floor Tiles: There are several cracked floor tiles; Lusi says the problem is with the under flooring and will contact the flooring contractor.

Technical Equipment in Colt Auditorium: Ed and Jane will check with Paul Morris tomorrow on the status; George said it is ready to go out to bid; only delay is publishing it in the paper.

Personnel – Filling Vacancy

Jane and Ed alerted the Committee that a personnel recommendation is on the agenda for Monday night for a technology person. They wanted to try to get by without a replacement for Diane Morris, but with the large amount of technology and data demands on the District, and the fact that Frank Fales (a near irreplaceable employee) will be eligible to retire in the not too distant future, Ed, Jane and Paul Morris felt it was in the District's best interest to hire this applicant, who has a background with Maximus; she is not a teacher.

Re-Funding of \$12.8M Bond Issue

After meeting with Sandy Mack and Steve Maceroni, Jane Correia discovered the District could save \$400,000 over the life of the \$12.8M loan taken for Kickemuit and Guiteras if we were to re-funded. The savings would have to be shared with RIDE and we would have to do all the backup work and quickly. Jane feels that although it will require a great deal of work, we are obligated to the public to follow through.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to direct the Director of Administration and Finance to explore the re-funding of the \$12.8M bond as a cost saving measure. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Budget FY 2009

Governor's Proposal

Jane reported the proposed Education Aid Distribution for FY 2009; Bristol Warren would receive \$19,937,233 total education support. Of the total Municipal Aid (\$178,010), 50% has to be spent on technology and it has to be a bid process. However, we cannot move forward until the Governor's supplemental budget is passed.

Budget FY 2010

Jane reported the proposed Education Aid Distribution for FY 2010; Bristol Warren would receive \$20,442,777 total education support. Jane reiterated, we cannot put credence into any of this information until we know how this is going to go. This year's budget is fine. Marjorie McBride mentioned this is a good time to set up a revenue stream.

Joint Finance Meeting

Jane said this Thursday's Joint Finance meeting is still on, although she is not sure why because not much can happen. Bill O'Dell asked if a vote on the budget is on the agenda. Jane will find out.

Next Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2009, 6:00 PM at Oliver

Adjournment

At 7:31 PM Paul Brule motioned to adjourn; Karen Lynch seconded; the motion passed unanimously.